

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY **REGION IX** 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

-April 2, 2008

Claudette Earl PRVY-Controlled/Privacy

Re:

104 (e) Request for Information - Omega Superfund Site Real Property at 11862 Burke Street, Santa Fe Springs, CA

Dear Ms. Earl:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") is spending public funds to investigate and respond to the release or threatened release of hazardous substances into the soil and groundwater at the Omega Chemical Superfund Site (the "Site"). As part of its investigation EPA is seeking to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the Site, to assess the effects of contamination on the environment and public health, and to identify activities and parties that have or may have contributed to contamination at the Site.

EPA believes that you may have information which may assist EPA in its investigation of the Site. Evidence from groundwater investigations to date suggests that operations at various facilities in the area, including Omega Chemical, may have contributed to groundwater contamination through the use of volatile organic compounds (VOCs); including but not limited to, perchloroethylene (PCE), freons, trichloroethylene (TCE), methylene chloride and 1,1-DCE. Answers to the questions in Enclosure B will provide us some of the information we need for this site investigation.

We request that you provide a complete and truthful response to this Information Request and attached questions (Enclosure B) within thirty (30) calendar days of your receipt of this letter. Under Section 104(e) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. §9604(e), EPA has broad information gathering authority which allows EPA to require persons to furnish information or documents relating to:

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generated, treated, stored, or disposed of at a vessel or facility or transported to a vessel or facility.

- (b) The nature or extent of a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant at or from a vessel or facility.
- (c) Information relating to the ability of a person to pay for or perform a cleanup.

Please note that your compliance with this Information Request is mandatory. Failure to respond fully and truthfully may result in an enforcement action by EPA pursuant to Section 104(e)(5) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §9604(e)(5). This statutory provision authorizes EPA to seek the imposition of penalties of up to \$32,500 per day of noncompliance. Please be further advised that provision of false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations may subject you to criminal penalties under 18 U.S.C. §1001. The information you provide may be used by EPA in administrative, civil or criminal proceedings.

Some of the information EPA is requesting may be considered by you to be confidential. Please be aware that you may not withhold the information upon that basis. If you wish EPA to treat the information confidentially, you must advise EPA of that fact by following the procedures outlined in Enclosure A, including the requirement for supporting your claim for confidentiality.

This request for information is not subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") under the Paperwork Reduction Act because it is not an "information collection request" within the meaning of 44 U.S.C. §§3502(3), 3507, 3512, and 3518(c)(1). See also 5 C.F.R. §§1320.3(c), 1320.4, and 1320.6(a). Furthermore, it is exempt from OMB review under the Paperwork Reduction Act because it is directed to fewer than ten persons. 44 U.S.C. §3502(4), (11); 5 C.F.R. §§1320.4 and 1320.6(a).

Instructions on how to respond to the questions are described in Enclosure A. Please return your written response to this request for information, signed by a duly authorized official of your company, within **thirty (30) calendar days** of receipt of this letter. Please direct your response to:

Linda Ketellapper, SFD-7-5 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX Superfund Division 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, California 94105

Your response should include the appropriate name, address, and telephone number for the person to whom EPA should direct future correspondence in regard to this matter on behalf of your company.

If you have questions regarding this information request, please contact Steve Berninger, Assistant Regional Counsel at (415) 972-3909 or Linda Ketellapper, Enforcement Officer, at